

# THE SCOOP



**Next CLAS Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM**  
**Plainville Municipal Building**

### Save These Dates!

CLAS Winter Dinner: January 30, 2010

CLAS Safety Seminar: February 27, 2010

More details to follow from CLAS.

GEBA Safety Seminar: March 13, 2010, Rutgers University



### CLAS is Going Green

To save money and save a tree, CLAS is going green. Now, we know some of you on the snail-mail Scoop list have email (you know who you are). Did you know it costs more than \$1 per issue to print and mail the Scoop each month?

CLAS' board of directors along with Libby Richardson, the Scoop Editor, are going to make every effort to make the Scoop available online, make announcements via email, and more! **If you do not have email, you must notify Libby by December 31<sup>st</sup> that you want the Scoop by mail.** You may contact her at [libby\\_rich@yahoo.com](mailto:libby_rich@yahoo.com) or at (203) 988-6577. Otherwise, you will be removed from the snail mail list and will be expected to view the Scoop online on our website at [www.lighterthanair.org](http://www.lighterthanair.org)

**Thanks for your help in making us green!**

#### **CLASSIFIED:**

**Sewing - Custom Basket and Tank Covers – Pouches**  
**Repairs on anything but envelopes**

**Contact: Jen Nelson – [sewitall@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sewitall@sbcglobal.net) or 203-597-9999**

## The New Kid on the Block

By Ellen Dressel

On a CRISP Sunday morning in October a new event took place. The new owner of a very familiar balloon took to the air. Garry Guertin is the proud owner of Mike Bollea's balloon we know as "Check Mate".

After several weekends where Garry was unable to fly for various reasons, his turn came. There is always a reason to wait. Getting the proper vehicle for both the balloon and crew took time.

On Sunday, the 11<sup>th</sup> of October, at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville with Garry's wife Debra, Penny Christy and Charlie Perrault as crew, Garry was finally able to get the balloon into the air. The ground was covered with a light coating of frost, the air was crisp and cold and the winds were gentle making for a beautiful flight.

After Erwin's take off from home base we drove over to wish Garry good wishes. As we drove into the parking lot the balloon was standing and we could see Erwin approaching from the Southwest. Going slow allowed us to stop, get the required pictures, wish him luck and still be ready for Erwin's landing.



*Photos by Ellen Dressel*

## **Minutes – CLAS Meeting of October 15, 2009**

CLAS VP Tom Murphy called the meeting to order at the Plainville Municipal Building at 7:32 PM.

**Members in attendance were:** Robert Zippolo, Garry Guertin, Lisa Huck, Bill Costen, Al Theodore, Tom Murphy, Pam Bogart Macfarlane, Jim O'Brien, Rick Silva, Carlos Keebe, Cindy Smith, Daryl Smith, Steve Ushchak, Erwin Dressel, Ellen Dressel, Libby Richardson, Santo Galatioto, Tony Roswell, Terri Rollinson, Jim Goodwin, Penny Christy, & Charlie Perreault

Last month's minutes were published in the Scoop and were not reviewed at this meeting.

**Sunshine Committee:** Card is to be sent out to wish Deb Smith a speedy recovery.

**Education Committee:** No report

**Nomination Committee:** No nominations for Secretary have been sent to Erwin, yet. Everyone is encouraged to send their recommendation to Erwin as soon as possible.

**Audit Committee:** No report

**Competition Committee:** No report

**BFA/FAA Committee:** No report

**Treasurer Report:** Penny reported the current balance is as follows:

CLAS Checking: \$6,019.82                      CD's: \$6,253.52                      Grand total is \$12,273.34

### **Old Business:**

**2010 Winter Dinner Targeted for Jan 30, 2010.** Robert is to contact the Waverly in Cheshire to confirm capacity and schedule.

**The 2010 BFA CLAS Safety Seminar** is scheduled for Feb 27, 2010. Lisa Huck has confirmed with the Dean, that the Yale Divinity School lecture hall will be available for the CLAS 2010 BFA Safety Seminar. Lisa also provided a tour for Garry & Penny of the Yale Divinity School lecture hall and facility. Cost of the Facility will be \$500 to cover maintenance and security. Libby reported that a catering price quote has been received and that the cost will be the same as last year. Motion was made and second to accept the quote and book the caterer.

## Yale Divinity School



### New Business:

**CLAS Membership database needs to be updated.** Penny will review and update the membership data base as required and forward to Jim O'Brian.

**The 2009 CLAS Photo Contest was successful.** A total 55 Pictures were submitted for review by the membership for the photo contest. 8 of the 55 were dedicated to Mike Bollea and the winning Mike picture will be placed in the December 2010 photo position in the 2010 CLAS calendar.

Congratulations to everyone for entering the many great pictures. It clearly was not easy to pick the winning top 12 pictures from among so many good pictures.

The winning photos owners as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Libby Richardson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Rick Silva
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Rick Silva
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place Mark Sand
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place Charlie Perreault
- 6<sup>th</sup> Place Charlie Perreault
- 7<sup>th</sup> Place Mark Sand
- 8<sup>th</sup> Place Garry Guertin
- 9<sup>th</sup> Place Daryl Smith
- 10<sup>th</sup> Place Debbie Smith
- 11<sup>th</sup> Place Rob Macfarlane
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place (Mike Photo) Charlie Perreault



*1<sup>st</sup> Place Photo by Libby Richardson*

The 2010 CLAS Calendar is targeted to be on sale at the November CLAS meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 once the Photo announcements were made. Erwin & Ellen will bring refreshments to the next meeting on November 19, 2009.

Respectfully submitted by Garry Guertin, CLAS Secretary

Connecticut Lighter Than Air Society, PO Box 53, Southbury, CT 06488-0053

## **From The Scoop Editor, Libby Richardson**

**Thanks for your contributions for this month's Scoop: Garry Guertin, Penny Christy, and Ellen and Erwin Dressel.**

### **Publishing Information**

*The Scoop* is published on a monthly basis prior to the club's monthly meeting on the third Thursday of each month. Submissions for *The Scoop* are preferred by email to Editor Libby Richardson at [libby\\_rich@yahoo.com](mailto:libby_rich@yahoo.com). Photos, articles, and ideas are always welcome. Information may be mailed to 380 Hitchcock Road #258, Waterbury, CT 06705 or can be brought to any CLAS meeting. All materials should be to the Editor at least two weeks prior to the club meeting for inclusion.



*The Connecticut Lighter Than Air Society publishes this newsletter for its members and interested parties. Portions of this newsletter may be reprinted if credit is given to the writer and to CLAS. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the organization or members of this organization. For more information contact Libby Richardson, CLAS, PO Box 53, Southbury, CT 06488-0053. Email: [libby\\_rich@yahoo.com](mailto:libby_rich@yahoo.com); Phone: 203-988-6577*

## **In The News**

### **Woman was quite an ace**

By: Jesse Buchanan, Record-Journal staff

CHESHIRE - Amelia Earhart is said to have trained at Rentschler Field, once the private airport of Pratt & Whitney in East Hartford. Her name can also be found with the likes of Charles Lindbergh in the logbooks of Sikorsky Memorial Airport in Bridgeport.

But could she have landed her plane on a rural airstrip near Weeks Pond in Cheshire, now the site of Highland School and the Police Department?

To read more, visit

[http://www.myrecordjournal.com/site/index.cfm?newsid=20384139&BRD=2755&PAG=461&dept\\_id=594803&rft=8](http://www.myrecordjournal.com/site/index.cfm?newsid=20384139&BRD=2755&PAG=461&dept_id=594803&rft=8)

### **Critics: Wine Country balloonists barge onto private land**

By PETER SUROWSKI

For some, hot air balloons are the symbol of Temecula. For others, they are a nuisance.

In recent months, Wine Country property owners have found their wire fences unwound, the locks on their gates broken and other damage. They suspect balloonists are at fault.

To read more, visit [http://www.pe.com/localnews/inland/stories/PE\\_News\\_Local\\_S\\_winery12.415bca7.html](http://www.pe.com/localnews/inland/stories/PE_News_Local_S_winery12.415bca7.html)

## **Bicyclist hit after colliding with hot air balloon tether line in Napa County**

Bay City News Service

A bicyclist suffered minor injuries this morning when she rode into a line tethering a hot air balloon to the ground in Napa County, a Cal Fire spokesman said.

According to the spokesman from Cal Fire's Napa County unit, the woman encountered the tethering line stretched into the roadway as she was bicycling on Henry Road, at Dealy Lane near the Napa-Sonoma county line.

"She didn't hit the balloon, she hit the tether," the spokesman said. The woman was treated for minor injuries, he said.

Cal Fire did not have information on whether the balloon had just landed in the area. According to the spokesman, hot air balloon companies usually launch farther north and work with air currents. "They come down where they come down," he said.

The California Highway Patrol received word of the incident at about 9:30 a.m. Preliminary reports said the bicyclist injured her ankle and suffered lacerations to the neck, nose and hands, according to CHP Officer John Short.

## **Largest helium balloon launches in Las Vegas**

The world's largest helium-filled, land-tethered balloon has launched in Las Vegas.

The giant balloon is seven stories wide and 11 stories tall and contains 210,000 cubic feet of helium. But it is also tethered to the ground by a pulley system.

Cloud Nine will be used to take up to 30 people 500 feet above the famous strip on 10-15 minute rides.



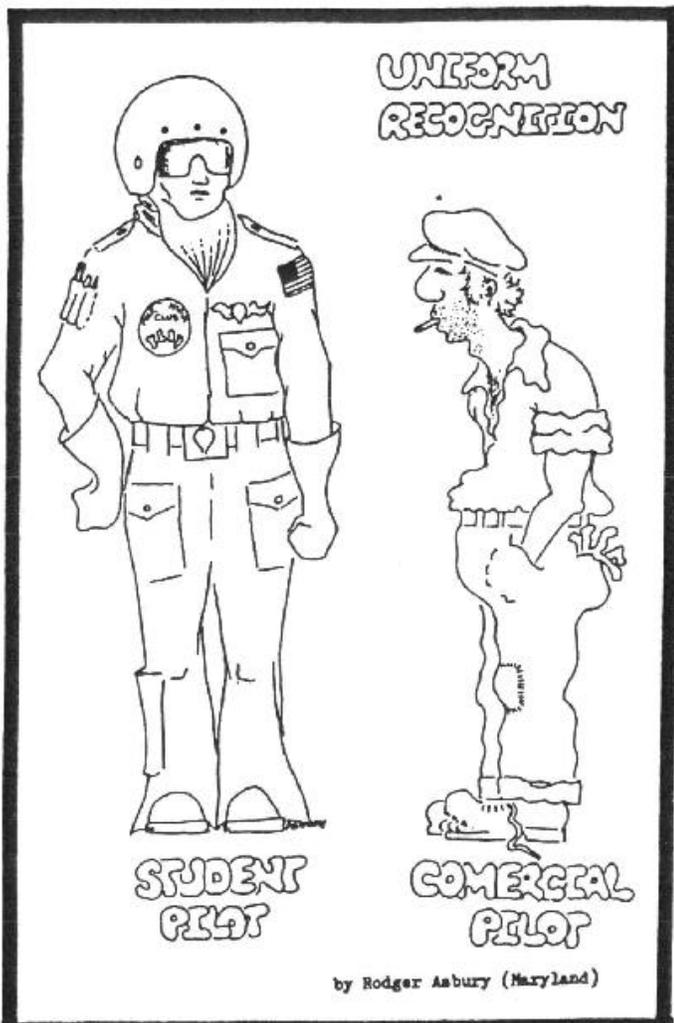
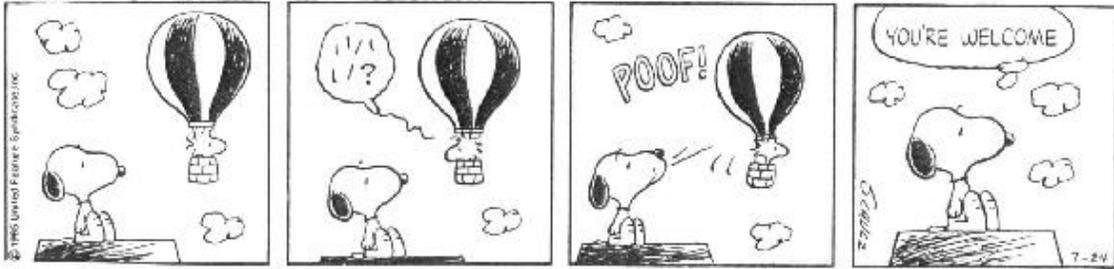
The world's largest helium-filled, land-tethered balloon... or just a load of hot air

Bosses say the project has been in the works for two years and is expected to become one of the most popular attractions in Las Vegas ... but they could just be full of hot air. A spokesperson for cloud9vegas.com said: "The Cloud Nine balloon is the world's largest, tethered helium balloon ride.

"It's custom built gondola holds 25-30 passengers and offers our guests the opportunity to soar above the skies of Las Vegas. "The balloon is always tethered to the ground with a steel cable and is never in a state of free flight."

# The Funny Pages

Peanuts



**Happy Thanksgiving!  
Have a great holiday!**

The Connecticut Lighter Than Air Society is a club for anyone interested in learning about, participating in, and improving the sport of ballooning. Pilots, crew, and enthusiasts alike are welcome and ALL can contribute to the safety, enjoyment and education of the sport. Meetings are scheduled monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at the Plainville Police Department, 19 Neal Court, Plainville, at 7:30 PM. For more information, contact any of the officers listed in this newsletter.

**CLAS DUES** \$20 include membership privileges and newsletter.

Extra voting family member add \$5

Newsletter Subscription Only \$15 CLAS Member Pins \$5 (\$3 members)

Decals \$2 (\$1 members) Landowner Pins \$4 (\$3 members – limited quantity)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

(Default will be electronic newsletter unless notified otherwise.)

**CLAS Membership Info:**

Single (\$20)\_\_\_ Family (\$20)\_\_\_ Extra Vote (\$5) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter Only (\$15)\_\_\_

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewing \_\_\_\_\_

Crew \_\_\_\_\_ Student Pilot \_\_\_\_\_ Private Pilot \_\_\_\_\_ Commercial Pilot \_\_\_\_\_ N# \_\_\_\_\_

BFA # \_\_\_\_\_ BFA CAAP Level \_\_\_\_\_ BFA PAAP Level \_\_\_\_\_

FAA Wings Level Completed \_\_\_\_\_

Pilot Certificate # \_\_\_\_\_ Type(s) of Certificate(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to CLAS and mail to: CLAS, PO Box 53, Southbury, CT 06488-0053**



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